

Claims

1. Method for being executed by a node (13, 14) in a telecommunications network (12), especially a network node (13, 14) acting as media-gateway (MGW), for participating in a communications path between at least two terminating devices, wherein a terminating device is a mobile terminal (10, 11) or a server, the communication path being used for transferring media data, wherein media data is audio data, video data or a combination of both, and where said media data is subject to a coding or decoding or both performed by a codec, wherein the method comprises the steps of
- receiving information about codec types or configurations or both supported on a section of the communication path from the node to a terminating device,
- comparing said information with information about codec types or configurations or both supported by the node, and providing a list (25, 26) of codec types or codec configurations or both supported directly, that is supported by the terminating device, supported by all network nodes in the section of the communication path involved in coding or decoding or both of said data, and supported by the node,
- characterised in that,
- said list (25, 26) further comprises codec types or configurations or both that can be used for coding or decoding or both if at least one transcoding is implemented in the communication path.
2. Method according to claim 1, wherein codec types or configurations or both that are supported directly form a

first part(28) of the list and codec types or configurations or both that can be used only if a further transcoding is implemented form a second part (29) of the list, and wherein these two parts of the codec list are separated by a separator (27).

3. Method according to claim 2 wherein the separator is a default codec type.

4. Method according to claim 3 wherein the default codec type is PCM.

5. Node (13, 14) for being used in a telecommunications network (12), especially a network node (13, 14) acting as media-gateway (MGW), for participating in a communication path for transferring media data, wherein media data is audio data or video data or a combination of both, the transferring being performed between terminating devices (10, 11), wherein a terminating device is a mobile terminal or a server, comprising a codec (21, 22) for coding or decoding or both of said media data, an input/output unit for sending and receiving messages, a comparing unit for comparing information about supported codec types or configurations or both supported by all nodes involved in coding or decoding or both on a section of the communication path from the node to a terminating device (10,11) and supported by the terminating device, with information of codec types or configurations or both supported by the node itself, a generation unit for generating a list (25, 26) of codec types or configurations or both supported (28) by each node (13, 14) of said section of the communication path,

supported by the terminating device, and supported by the node itself,

characterised in that,

said list (25, 26) of codec types or configurations or

5 both generated by said generation unit further comprises codec types and configurations that can be used for coding or decoding only if a transcoding (29) is implemented in the communication path.

6. Node according to claim 5, wherein generation unit gener-

10 ates a list wherein the codec types and configurations that are supported by the terminating device, all network nodes involved in coding or decoding of said media data on the section of the communication path, and the node itself form a first part (28) of the list, and a further part
15 (29) of the list comprises codec types and configurations that can be used for coding or decoding or both of the media data if a transcoding is implemented in the communication path and wherein the two parts of the list are separated by a separator (27).

20 7. Method for selecting at least one of a coder or decoder type or configuration or both for coding or decoding media data, wherein media data is audio data or video data or a combination of both, that is to be transferred over a communication path between a first and a second terminating
25 device, wherein a terminating device is a mobile terminal (10, 11) or a server, engaged with a telecommunications network (12) comprising at least a first and a second network node (13, 14) that are linked into the communication path, wherein the communication path comprises a first
30 call leg to the first terminating device and a second call

leg to the second terminating device, and wherein the method comprises the steps of,

receiving or generating a first list of codec types or configurations or both for the first call leg,

5 receiving or generating a second list of codec types or configurations or both for the second call leg,

wherein the first and the second list each comprise a first part (28) with codec types or configurations or both

10 supported by all nodes involved in coding or decoding of media data transferred on the respective call leg and supported by the respective terminating device, and a second part (29) comprising codec types or configurations or both that can be used only if at least one transcoding is implemented in the call leg,

15 comparing the first and the second list,

selecting a codec type or configuration or both from the first list, and

selecting a codec type or configuration or both from the second list.

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8. Method according to claim 7, with the additional step of determining that the first part of the first list and the first part of the second list each comprise at least one codec type or codec configuration, and wherein the compar-

25 ing step is performed by comparing the first part of the first list with the first part of the second list.

9. Method according to claim 7 with the additional step of determining that either the first part of the first list or the first part of the second list does not comprise any

30 codec type or configuration, wherein the comparing step is

performed by comparing the first part that comprises at least one codec type or configuration with the second part of the respective other list.

10. Method according to claim 7, with the additional step of
5 determining that none of the list comprises a first part with at least one codec type or configuration, and wherein the comparing step is performed by comparing the second part of the first list with the second part of the second list.

10 11. Method according to claim 7, 8, 9 or 10, wherein the selecting steps are performed by evaluating a priority table (30, 31).

12. Method according to claim 11,
where said priority table (30) is a matrix in the form of
15 a triangular matrix comprising elements along its diagonal referring to transcoder free transmission and further elements in the upper or lower triangular referring to transmission of data where transcoding is required.

13. Device for selecting at least one of a coder or de-
20 coder type or configuration or both for coding or decoding or both of media data, wherein media data is audio data or video data or a combination of both, that is to be transferred over a communication path between a first and a second terminating device, wherein a terminating device is
25 a mobile terminal (10, 11) or a server, engaged with a telecommunications network (12) comprising at least a first and a second network node (13, 14) that are linked into the communication path, wherein the communication path comprises a first call leg to the first terminating

device and a second call leg to the second terminating device, the device comprising,
an input unit for receiving first list of codec types or configurations or both for the first call leg,
5 and for receiving a second list of codec types or configurations or both for the second call leg,
a comparing unit for comparing the first and the second list

characterised by that

10 the comparing unit is adapted to detect a separator separating a first part (28) of a list with codec types or configurations or both supported by all nodes involved in coding or decoding or both of media data transferred on the respective call leg and supported by the respective
15 terminating device, and a second part (29) comprising codec types or configurations or both that can be used only if at least one transcoding is implemented in the call leg, the comparing unit further adapted to detect if one or both of the lists do not comprise any codec type or
20 configuration in the first part,
a selecting unit for selecting a codec type or configuration or both from the first list and the second list according to a result of the comparing step.

25 14. Device according to claim 13, further comprising a storage for storing a priority table (30, 31), and wherein the selecting unit uses the contents of the priority table for selecting.